

--33. A program storage device readable and executable by an auction apparatus for performing an auction method, the apparatus connected to a plurality of bidder terminals via a network, said method including the following steps:

providing information on a product to be auctioned via the network;

collecting a desired price for the product and a maximum margin of the price acceptable to pay proposed by each bidder via the network; and

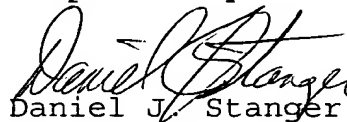
if the desired price proposed by one of the bidder coincides with the desired price proposed by another bidder and the auction assumes a competitive state, for resolving the competitive state in accordance with the maximum margins proposed by the competitive bidders.

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REMARKS

The Applicants request entry of the foregoing new claims.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel J. Stanger  
Registration No. 32,846  
Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
104 East Hume Avenue  
Alexandria, Virginia 22301  
(703) 684-1120  
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